

# Data Standards and Recommendations Committee

**To:** Indiana GIS Initiative

**From:** Jeff Sewell

**Date:** January 2, 2002

**Re:** Meeting Minutes

## **In Attendance:**

David Glenn, INDOT

Gary Kent, Schneider Engineering

Bob Wilkinson, IDNR

Roger Koelpin, ITOC

Jim Sparks, Polis Center

Jeff Sewell, IDEM

## **Topics:**

### **Feature Metadata Standard**

**Status:** Rough Draft

**During the meeting:** The group went over the draft standard and made comments and recommendations for revisions.

#### **Homework:**

1. Jeff Sewell will incorporate comments and work towards final draft for next meeting. Additional comments can be sent to Jeff at [jsewell@dem.state.in.us](mailto:jsewell@dem.state.in.us)
2. Jeff will plan on presenting a session on Feature Metadata at the INGISI Conference.

### **Draft Projections, Datum, and Coordinate System Standard**

[http://www.in.gov/ingisi/pdf/draft\\_proj\\_datum.pdf](http://www.in.gov/ingisi/pdf/draft_proj_datum.pdf)

**Status:** Draft Open for Public Comment as of 6/26/01.

**During the meeting:** The group discussed potential conflicts between state and local users' needs and interests with the standard in its current form. The group formulated homework questions for the next meeting to lead further discussion and revision of the standard.

**Homework:** Everyone will review the standard keeping in mind the following questions and issues, and be prepared to discuss at the next meeting.

1. Where do conflicts exist between statewide versus local needs and interests in regards to this standard? This issue ends up largely centered on parcel data.
2. What state laws have a bearing on this standard?
3. If conversion from one coordinate system/datum/projection to another is a part of the solution, what error does the conversion process introduce?
4. If conversion from one software system to another is a part of the solution what error does the conversion process introduce?
5. The legal descriptions defining ownership are inherently flawed and create error in surveys and GIS that can only be fixed by first changing the legal description and resolving the resulting disputes between property owners. How does this problem relate

- to the standard? Is there an opportunity here to educate people about the inherent problems with legal descriptions so that their surveying and GIS goals are more realistic?
6. What is the overall significance of all of this error? How does this standard address it, if at all?

### **Future Standard Development Projects**

**GIS File Exchange Standard** – This standard would provide a reference for what file formats can be read or converted between the various GIS and CADD software in popular use. It was noted that identifying to the degree possible how much error is introduced by the conversion process would also be beneficial. David Glenn volunteered to be involved in drafting this standard. Larry Stout seemed to be particularly knowledgeable about this subject, and would also be a good resource. Volunteers are welcome if you have an interest in this subject.

**Metadata File Exchange Standard** – This standard would suggest a file format for sharing metadata. Everyone agreed that there is a relatively short list of viable candidates including .txt, .html, and .xml formats. The IUPUI Library may provide some good input into this process as they try to resolve this issue with the GIS Clearing House. Nobody was volunteered to write the standard. We'll see who doesn't show up for the next meeting for a list of candidates. Volunteers are welcome.

### **Next Meeting**

The Next INGISI Data Standards and Recommendation Committee meeting will be on Wednesday, February 6, 2002, 10am - 12pm, at:

The Polis Center  
Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI)  
1200 Waterway Boulevard  
Indianapolis, IN 46202  
(317) 274-8400  
(317) 278-1830 fax

### ***Agenda:***

1. Comments and feedback on latest Feature Metadata Standard draft.
2. Continued discussion on Projections, Datum, and Coordinate System Standard draft.
3. Data Standards and Recommendation Committee participation in INGISI Conference
4. Future Standard Development Projects